

Serial No. 10/024,988
Amendment C

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) In a method of producing selectively elastic areas in a precursor web suitable for resultant garments, the precursor web having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the steps comprising:

a) providing the precursor web at a first dimension, at least a portion of the precursor web being extendable under force to a second dimension greater than the first dimension without permanent deformation of the precursor web;

b) affixing an untensioned and active elastic material to the at least a portion of the precursor web when the at least a portion of the precursor web is at the first dimension and is generally flat; and

c) producing a garment from the precursor web with the affixed elastic material without permanent deformation of the precursor web subsequent to affixing the elastic.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the precursor web comprises a backsheet web.

4. (original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the backsheet web comprises a nonwoven spunbond web extendable in at least the lateral direction.

5. (original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the backsheet web comprises a microporous film extendable in at least the lateral direction.

6. (original) The method according to Claim 4 wherein the backsheet web comprises a microporous film extendable in at least the lateral direction.

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7. (original) The method according to Claim 4 wherein the backsheet web comprises an elastomeric extendable in at least the lateral direction.

8. (original) The method according to Claim 6 wherein the backsheet web comprises an elastomeric extendable in at least the lateral direction.

9. (original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the precursor web further comprises a topsheet web layer.

10. (original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the precursor web comprises an assembled diaper lacking only a waistband elastic.

11. (original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the backsheet comprises material selected from the group comprising, necked nonwovens, expandable films, elastomerics, or combinations thereof.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 1 wherein a second elastic material is applied in a tensioned state to the precursor web.

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15. (currently amended) In a method of producing elastic cuff areas in a web suitable for resultant garments, the web having a longitudinal direction and a lateral direction, the steps comprising:

a) providing the web at a first dimension, with width being measured in the lateral direction, the web being biaxially expandable to a second dimension greater than the first dimension without permanent deformation of the web;

b) affixing an untensioned and active elastic material to a cuff area of the web when the web is at the first dimension and is generally flat; and

c) constructing a garment from the web without permanent deformation of the web subsequent to affixing the elastic.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the cuff area is a leg cuff.

19. (original) The method of Claim 15 wherein the cuff area is a waistband.

20. (currently amended) In a method of producing selectively elastic cuff area in a web suitable for resultant garments, the steps comprising:

a) providing the web at a first dimension, the web being expandable in a cuff area to a second dimension wider than the first dimension without permanent deformation of the web;

b) fixing an untensioned and active elastic material to the cuff area of the web when the web is at the first dimension and is generally flat; and

c) constructing a garment from the web without permanent deformation of the web subsequent to affixing the elastic.

21. (previously presented) The method of Claim 20 wherein the elastic creates a flat cuff area.

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22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 further comprising: producing the garment to be an absorbent disposable garment having an ungathered cuff area.

24. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 23 wherein the cuff area is a waistband.

25. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 23 wherein the cuff area is a leg opening.

26. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 23 wherein the cuff area is expandible by 25% of its original dimension.

27. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 23 wherein the cuff area is expandible by 50% of its original dimension.

28. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15 further comprising: producing the garment to be an absorbent disposable garment having an ungathered cuff area.

29. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the cuff area is a waistband.

30. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the cuff area is a leg opening.

31. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the cuff area is expandible by 25% of its original dimension.

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32. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the cuff area is expandible by 50% of its original dimension.

33. (currently amended) A method of producing selectively elastic areas in a web of material comprising:

a) providing a web having a first dimension, the web being expandable in at least one area to a second dimension without permanently deforming the web, wherein the second dimension is greater than the first dimension ;

b) affixing at least one untensioned and active elastic material to the at least one expandable area of the web while the web is at the first dimension and is generally flat; and

c) constructing a garment from the web without permanently deforming the web where the at least one untensioned elastic material is affixed, and wherein the garment is flat where the untensioned elastic material is affixed.

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